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Technical Data Sheets

# MARMORINO FOR FLOOR

Natural Cement based Finish for Floor

## INSTRUCTION FOR APPLICATION

**Application on the ideal substrate: plaster made of cement and sand.**

A water-based primer, like our "Normal Primer", is applied with a roller on a substrate free of dirt and grease.

If you have pre-colored material already in your warehouse, use this for all three coats. If you have white material, use this for the first coat in order to simplify preparation; it saves on time and colorant.

Mix the material with enough water to make the mixture dense enough to apply easily with a metal trowel. Normally you need about 4,00 ml. of water for 1 kg. of marmorino powder.

Spread the first coat evenly over the entire surface, finishing at doorway. You will need approximately 0,9 / 1,1 kg of material per 1 square meter. Let it dry until the next day.

If you have colored material already in your warehouse, it will be much simpler to apply the second and third coats. If you have to add color to the material there are three possibilities:

1) Color the material with powder colorants before adding the water. You have to figure out how much colorant to add to each container first, which involves a long process to establish how much colorant is needed to obtain the color you want.

2) Color the white material after you have mixed it with water. You still have to do color tests beforehand to be sure of the exact weight of liquid colorant you will use.

3) To tint the liquid additive AQA if you are going to improve your application with it.

Solutions 2 and 3 are the more practical.

In all the cases, the colorant must be one that is resistant to the alkaline in the cement.

Mix up enough material for the second coat (0,8 kg. of powder per square meter) and using a metal trowel, start applying it. Have a clear plan of how you are going to apply it in 40-50 cm. strips, beginning at the point farthest from the door.

Be careful to apply it uniformly and smoothly.

After you finish applying the second coat, you'll have time to prepare the material for the third coat. It is difficult to know how long to wait before applying the third coat because it depends a great deal on the air temperature and humidity. In general, the moment is right when you can comfortably step on it (approximately 25 min.-1 hour). It is recommended to go barefoot or wear socks that won't leave their imprint on the material.

Apply the third coat with the metal trowel as you would a normal marmorino, but without pressing too much. Complete the whole floor and then, when you can step on it, come back using a spray bottle with water and working in small areas spray the water and make smooth using both a metal trowel and a plastic trowel. The metal trowel can leave dark marks like it does when you scrape metal over cement. This is more visible with lighter colors. Because of this you have to use the plastic trowel to finish smoothing it out. You will notice that on a floor, you don't need to finish it as smooth and polished as you would on a wall. Besides it's not possible to return to polish it after 10 or 15 minutes, as you do on a wall.

Try to create an environment with the right humidity because the slower the material dries, the stronger it becomes. The floor shouldn't be walked on for several hours and in any case should be protected until you apply the final protection. Without the final protection, the floor can always be easily marred.

After 5-10 days (the longer, the better), you can apply the final treatment, which can be done in two ways:

1. With the application of a single or dual component polyurethane for which we can give you application instructions. This is usually applied with a roller.
2. With linseed oil. Pour it on the floor and spread with a soft, absorbent cloth. This will be done two more times, allowing the first coat to dry at least 12 hours.

Note:

- If you are working on a new concrete substrate, be sure that it is at least a month old and that it is completely dry. It's possible for cracks to appear in new concrete the first 2-3 weeks after laying the concrete.
- During application, the marmorino can be directly poured from the bucket onto the floor and then spread with a trowel.
- During application, it is useful to have a light source close to and parallel to the floor. Be careful, however, that this doesn't dry out the material too much before applying the third coat.
- This material can be used to cover concrete bathtubs and shower stall walls as a substrate. Naturally, they would have to be well-treated with good waterproofing.
- If you want to apply it on ceramic or marble floors you have to roughen the tiles using a sander; then apply a special adhesive plaster, being careful to cover up the lines between the tiles.
- Before the final treatment of the floor, small imperfections can be removed using sandpaper.
- Keep in mind that when preparing the color that it darkens considerable after applying the oil, which we call the "wet look".
- Your customer should know that dropping heavy objects on the surface can cause small dents, exactly as happens with wood flooring.
- It is possible to do touch-ups when necessary. To do this, we advise keeping some of the powder colored material in a well-sealed container. Use a container which is just big enough so the material is exposed to little air. Doing this should allow you to keep the material ready to use for many years.
- If the substrate is cracked, you have to substantiate that they are cracks due to the curing process and not due to settlement. If the latter is the case, your customer should be advised that they will be responsible for any reappearance of cracks.
- If you have to work in two adjacent rooms, it is advisable to create a natural break at the doorways. You can't, in fact, work in 2 or 3 rooms at a time without having breaks. One way to deal with this is to put a strip of metal (aluminium, steel or brass) into the concrete (screed) substrate which will act as a divider. This strip of metal should rise above the surface of the concrete 1.5 - 2 mm. (the eventual thickness of your marmorino coating).

### **Floor Tricks of the trade**

If the floor is to be applied over a concrete substrate, be sure the concrete has cured for at least 30 days and that all normal shrinking and cracking has occurred before applying the marmorino.

Whenever applying products on floor surfaces, it is advisable to use knee pads.

To facilitate application of a third coat, it is advisable to sift the material (just in case you do not have from us already sieved material for the last coat) to make it smoother. This can be done when it is still a powder or after it is wet and therefore already tinted. A 0.4 or 0.5 mm sifter works well.

During the third coat application, the floor can be sprayed with water (or water with a little of our Natural Marseille soap – 1 soap to 10 parts of water ) to get an easier application.

If you use our Color System, coloring the material, even in small quantities, is easy because you have the formulation. If you want to match a new batch of colored material with an old one, and you have a little of the original color leftover, just spread a little of the original mixture on a trowel and put it next to the newly mixed color. It is advisable to do this under a variety of light sources, under lights, in shadow, etc., before deciding if the color is right.

Remember that often day light comes from the windows on the floor, so in that case the color you choose has to be proper for outside (sun ray resistant).

If you don't have a sample of the original color, as can happen when doing retouching, compare the new color spread on a trowel with the floor itself. The new color should be just about the same color as the floor because once the new color is applied and treated with varnish or oil, it will look like it does when wet.

If you want to retouch the plaster before varnishing, we advise you to finish applying the plaster, the reparation, first (which can be done at different different times) and then dry it with hot air for faster drying. At this point all you have to do is wet the plaster to see what color it will be after varnishing or oiling.

When applying a clear product (the final varnish) with a roller, it's always a good idea to work perpendicular to the light source to reduce the risk of leaving visible roller marks.

It is a good thing to sand the floor with a manual sander before applying the final top protection. It is recommended you use a paper P180 or finer.